

**From:** Paul Burkeland  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/14/01 3:30pm  
**Subject:** Harsher Penalties for Microsoft

Please, please, please impose harsher penalties upon the software giant Microsoft.

Their maintaining of a monopoly is hurting us computer users. They make proprietary formats, and people accept them because of the huge hold they have on the market. They can charge whatever they want for their software (which is the only way to access these formats), essentially forcing people to pay outrageous prices to get work accomplished. If there were more competitors in this area, prices would be cheaper, and we wouldn't have to conform to Microsoft's way of doing things.

Microsoft keeps making their own standards on the internet. They make others conform to what THEY want. That isn't how the internet is supposed to be. One company isn't supposed to dictate how things are viewed and interacted with. One company isn't supposed to have a stranglehold on the future of computing.

Please?

-Paul Burkeland